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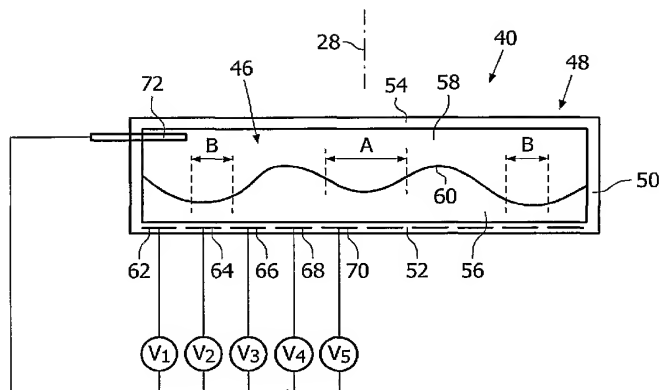
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(54) Title: AN OPTICAL COMPONENT FOR INTRODUCING OPTICAL ABERRATIONS TO A LIGHT BEAM



(57) **Abstract:** An optical component (48) for introducing optical aberrations to a light beam defining an optical axis (28) is described, comprising a fluid chamber (46) having a first fluid (56) and at least a second fluid (58) therein, the first and second fluid (56, 58) being nonmiscible, the first fluid (56) and the second fluid (58) being in contact along an interface (60) extending through the fluid chamber (46) substantially transverse to the optical axis (28), the first and second fluids (56, 58) having different indices of refraction, the first fluid (56) being substantially electrically insulating and the second fluid (58) being substantially electrically conductive; at least a first electrode (62 - 70) separated from the second fluid (58) and at least a second electrode (72) acting on the second fluid to alter the shape of the interface (60) in dependence on a voltage applied between the first and second electrode (62 - 70, 72). The at least one first electrode (62 - 70) is arranged in an intermediate portion with respect to the interface (60) such that the intermediate portion (A, B) of the interface (60) is moved substantially in direction of the optical axis (28) in dependence on the voltage applied between the at least one first electrode (62 - 70) and the at least one second electrode (72)

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